

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-14. (canceled)

15. (currently amended) A method of providing program guide information to at least one ~~information subscriber equipment terminal~~ comprising the steps of:

(a) ~~forming~~generating by a server, for a first plurality of channels, a first program guide information ~~video stream, said first program guide information stream comprising a video representation of~~plurality of video frames including images of a first program guide screen, ~~the first program guide screen displaying comprising~~ programming offered by each of said first plurality of channels during a predetermined period, ~~said first program guide information stream including video objects associated with respective program selection parameters;~~

(b) ~~forming~~generating by the server, for each of a second plurality of channels, a second program guide information ~~video stream, said second program guide information stream comprising a video representation of~~a plurality of video frames including images of a second program guide screen, ~~the second program guide screen displaying comprising~~ programming offered by each of said second plurality of channels during said predetermined time period, ~~said second program guide information stream including video objects associated with respective program selection parameters, said second program guide video objects arranged in substantially the same manner as said first program guide video objects; and~~

(c) ~~providing~~transmitting, to said ~~at least one information subscriber equipment~~the at least one terminal, said first and second program guide information ~~video streams, said first and second program guide information video streams being temporally aligned according to said predetermined time period, wherein the second program guide screen and the first program guide screen are configured for non-simultaneous display and wherein the server is located remotely from the at least one terminal.~~

16. (cancelled).

17. (original) The method of claim 15, further comprising the step of:

continuously repeating steps (a) through (c) for each of a plurality of predefined time periods.

18. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~47~~15, wherein said step of ~~providing-transmitting~~ (c) comprises the steps of:

~~encoding each program guide information of said first and second program guide video streams associated with each of said plurality of predefined time periods as a single logical streams;~~

~~combining each the plurality of the logical streams having a common predefined time period into a single physical stream; and~~

~~transporting, to said at least one information subscriber equipment at least one terminal, one or more physical streams including respective combined logical streams the single physical stream.~~

19. (currently amended) A method of retrieving provided program guide information comprising the steps of:

~~selecting, in response to user interaction, receiving, by a terminal, a user selection of a first time period of interest;~~

~~identifying a first physical channel including program guide information associated with said first time period of interest, wherein the program guide information is received from a server located remotely from the terminal;~~

~~decoding, by the terminal, a first logical stream within said first identified physical channel, said first logical stream comprising a first program guide information-video stream, said first program guide information-video stream comprising a video representation plurality of video frames including images of a first program guide screen of comprising programming offered by each of a first plurality of channels during a first predetermined time period including said first time period of interest, said first program guide information-video stream further including video objects associated with respective program selection parameters corresponding to interactive elements of the first program guide screen;~~

retrieving, from a memory of the terminal, a graphic overlay comprising a plurality of graphic objects, each of said plurality of graphic objects having a predefined display position visually cooperative with a display position of a corresponding video object included in the first program guide video stream, said graphic objects being user interactive to selectively emphasize one of said video objects; ~~and~~

~~displaying, on a presentation device, said first program guide information-video stream of said identified physical channel and said graphic overlay, wherein the graphic overlay overlays the first program guide screen images of the first program guide video stream; and~~

detecting a first user interaction with a video object of the first program guide video stream; and

in response to the first user interaction, modifying, by the terminal, at least one of said graphic objects corresponding to the video object with which the first user interaction is detected without modifying the video object or the first program guide video stream.

20. (currently amended) The method of claim 19, further comprising the steps of:

~~receiving an indicium of user interaction~~determining that the first user interaction corresponds to selection of a graphic object associated with one of a second plurality of channels; and

~~in response to said user interaction comprising a selection of a graphic object associated with one of a second plurality of channels~~determination, performing the steps of:

\_\_\_\_\_ decoding a second logical stream within said identified first physical channel, said second logical stream comprising a second program guide information-video stream, said second program guide information-video stream comprising a video representation of plurality of video frames including images of a second program guide screen comprising programming offered by each of a the second plurality of channels during said first predetermined time period, said second program guide information stream including video objects associated with respective program selection parameters, said video objects representing interactive elements of the second program guide screen, the video objects visually cooperating with said graphic overlay objects;

\_\_\_\_\_ presenting, on said presentation device, displaying said second program guide information-video stream of said first identified physical channel and said graphic overlay.

21. (canceled)

22. (currently amended) The method of claim 19, wherein said step of ~~presenting~~displaying comprises:

~~presenting~~displaying, as a video layer ~~on the presentation device, a~~ the first program guide video stream associated with said first program guide information stream including one or more of the video objects included in the first program guide video stream, each of said one or more of the video objects comprising one of a moving image and a still image;

selectively emphasizing or de-emphasizing, in response to ~~a~~ the first user interaction, ~~the at least one of said graphical objects corresponding to said respective video objects~~ without modifying the corresponding video object;

selecting, in response to a second user interaction, an emphasized or de-emphasized graphical object; and

transmitting, to ~~an information provider equipment~~ the server, indicia of said selected graphical object.

23. (currently amended) The method of claim 22, wherein:

each of said graphical objects comprises a bitmap image stored in ~~an information subscriber equipment~~ the terminal;

each of said stored bitmap images comprises a shape parameter and a position parameter, said shape parameter defining a shape of said bitmap image, said position parameter defining the ~~presentment~~ display position of said bitmap image within a graphics layer; and

each of said graphical objects having shape and position parameters cooperating with shape and position parameters of ~~said one or more~~ corresponding video objects.

24. (previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein:

at least one graphic object comprises a bitmap image having shape and position parameters that are predefined.

25. (currently amended) The method of claim 23, wherein:

at least one graphic object comprises a bitmap image having shape and position parameters that are defined by said ~~information-provider equipment~~server.

26. (previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein:

said shape parameter comprises a rectilinear shape parameter, and said position parameter comprises an X-Y grid border parameter.

27. (previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein:

said shape parameter comprises a non-rectilinear shape parameter, and said position parameter comprises an X-Y grid border parameter.

28. (currently amended) The method of claim 23, wherein:

said at least one of said graphical objects ~~associated with~~corresponding to said ~~respective~~ video objects ~~graphic~~ is selectively emphasized or de-emphasized by adapting at least one of a chrominance and a luminance parameter of said ~~respective~~a corresponding bitmap image.

29. (currently amended) The method of claim 23, wherein:

said at least one of said graphical objects ~~associated with~~corresponding to said ~~respective~~ video objects ~~graphic~~ is selectively emphasized or de-emphasized by adapting at least one of a shape parameter and a position parameter of said ~~respective~~a corresponding bitmap image.

30. (currently amended) The method of claim 23, further comprising:

~~determining, by examining said first program guide information stream,~~ an appropriate graphic layer for ~~presentation~~overlaying a display of the first program guide screen images of the first program guide video stream; and  
~~presenting, on the presentation device,~~displaying said appropriate graphic layer.

31. (currently amended) The method of claim 15, wherein ~~the providing-transmitting~~ of said second program guide ~~information-video~~ stream to said ~~at least one information subscriber equipment~~terminal is responsive to an input received from said ~~at least one information subscriber equipment~~terminal.

32. (previously presented) The method of claim 15, wherein the second plurality of channels includes at least one channel different from the channels included in said first plurality of channels.

33. (currently amended) The method of claim 19, further comprising:

determining that a user has sequenced beyond a threshold through a portion of the first plurality of channels as ~~presented~~ displayed on said presentation device a display device; and

responsive to determining that the user has sequenced through the portion of the first plurality of channels, transmitting a request for a ~~second~~ program guide information stream comprising a second video stream, the second video stream including a plurality of video frames having images of a second program guide screen comprising programming offered by each of a second plurality of channels during the first predetermined time period.

34. (currently amended) An apparatus comprising:

a processor; and

memory storing instructions that, when executed by the processor, cause the apparatus to perform:

generating by a server, for a first plurality of channels, a first program guide video stream comprising a plurality of video frames including images of a first program guide screen, the first program guide screen comprising programming offered by each of said first plurality of channels during a predetermined period;

generating by the server, for each of a second plurality of channels, a second program guide video stream comprising a plurality of video frames including images of a second program guide screen, the second program guide screen comprising programming offered by each of said second plurality of channels during said predetermined time period; and

transmitting, to a terminal, said first and second program guide video streams, said first and second program guide video streams being temporally aligned according to said predetermined time period and wherein the server is located remotely from the terminal.

~~forming, for a first plurality of channels, a first program guide information stream, said first program guide information stream comprising a video representation of a first program guide screen displaying programming offered by each of said first plurality of channels during a~~

~~predetermined period, said first program guide information stream including video objects associated with respective program selection parameters;~~

~~forming, for each of a second plurality of channels, a second program guide information stream, said second program guide information stream comprising a video representation of a second program guide screen displaying programming offered by each of said second plurality of channels during said predetermined time period, said second program guide information stream including video objects associated with respective program selection parameters, said second program guide video objects arranged in substantially the same manner as said first program guide video objects; and~~

~~providing, to at least one information subscriber equipment, said first and second program guide information streams, said first and second program guide information streams being temporally aligned according to said predetermined time period, wherein the second program guide screen and the first program guide screen are configured for non-simultaneous display.~~

35. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 34, ~~wherein said first and second program guide information streams provide, to said at least one information subscriber equipment, contextually related program guide information comprising programming offered by each of said first plurality of channels and said second plurality of channels within said predetermined time period~~ wherein the instructions, when executed, further cause the apparatus to perform:

encoding each of said first and second program guide video streams as single logical streams;

combining each of said single logical streams having a common predefined time period into a single physical stream; and

transporting, to said terminal, one or more physical streams including respective combined logical streams.

36. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 34, ~~wherein the providing of~~ transmitting ~~said second program guide information video stream to said at least one information subscriber~~

~~equipment-terminal~~ is responsive to an input received from said ~~at least one information~~  
~~subscriber equipmentterminal~~.

37-38 (Cancelled).

39. (New) A method comprising:

receiving, at a terminal from a server located remotely from the terminal, a first program guide video stream comprising a plurality of video frames including pre-generated images of a first program guide screen, the first program guide screen comprising programming offered by each of a first plurality of channels during a predetermined period;

receiving, at the terminal from the server, a second program guide video stream comprising a plurality of video frames including pre-generated images of a second program guide screen, the second program guide screen comprising programming offered by each of a second plurality of channels different from the first plurality of channels during said predetermined time period, said first and second program guide video streams being temporally aligned according to said predetermined time period; and

displaying said first and second program guide video streams on a display device.

40. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein receiving the first and second program guide video streams includes receiving a single physical stream comprising the first and second program guide video streams.

41. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the terminal comprises a set-top box.

42. (New) An apparatus comprising:

a processor; and

memory operatively coupled to the processor and storing instructions that, when executed, cause the apparatus to perform:

receiving, from a server located remotely from the apparatus, a first program guide video stream comprising a plurality of video frames including pre-generated images of a



first program guide screen, the first program guide screen comprising programming offered by each of a first plurality of channels during a predetermined period;

receiving, from the server, a second program guide video stream comprising a plurality of video frames including pre-generated images of a second program guide screen, the second program guide screen comprising programming offered by each of a second plurality of channels different from the first plurality of channels during said predetermined time period, said first and second program guide video streams being temporally aligned according to said predetermined time period; and

displaying said first and second program guide video streams on a display device.

43. (New) The apparatus of claim 42, wherein receiving the first and second program guide video streams includes receiving a single physical stream comprising the first and second program guide video streams.

44. (New) The apparatus of claim 42, wherein the terminal comprises a set-top box.

45. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein the at least one terminal comprises a set-top box.

46. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein the terminal comprises a set-top box.

47. (New) The apparatus of claim 34, wherein the terminal comprises a set-top box.